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PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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RESPONSE TO REQUIREMENT FOR
RESTRICTION AND REQUEST FOR
EXTENSION OF TIME

Docket Number:
85940/15

APR 17 2002

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Application Number
08/928,893

Filing Date
September 12, 1997

Examiner
D. Naff

Art Unit
1651

Invention Title
PROCESS FOR THE SIMULTANEOUS
PRODUCTION OF XYLITOL AND ETHANOL

Inventor(s)
Heikkila et al.

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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Date: 4-10-02

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RESPONSE TO REQUIREMENT FOR RESTRICTION

SIR:

Applicants hereby **request a one-month extension of time** for responding to the Requirement for Restriction mailed February 13, 2002, for which a one-month response period was set. The extended period expires on April 13, 2002. The Commissioner is authorized to charge payment of the 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) extension fee of **\$110**, or any additional required fees, to the deposit account of **Kenyon & Kenyon**, deposit account number **11-0600**.

In the Requirement for Restriction mailed February 13, 2002, Applicants were required to elect one of the following groups of claims:

Group I: claims 1, 3, 5-13, 15-16, 19-21 and 23-31,
relating to a process for the simultaneous production of
xylitol and ethanol from a starting material of
hydrolyzed lignocellulose-containing material; and

Group II: claims 32-34, relating to a process for the simultaneous
production of xylitol and ethanol from a starting material of sulphite
spent liquor.

In response, Applicants elect, with traverse, the invention of Group I, claims 1, 3, 5-13, 15-16, 19-21 and 23-31.

This election is made with traverse because even though the claims of Groups I and II may be considered by the Examiner as patentably distinct from one another, it is believed that the claims are sufficiently related to be properly presented in a single application. Given the commonality of the subject matter here, examination of all the claims should not place a serious burden upon the Examiner.

Respectfully submitted,



Dated: 4-10-02

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